

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRASIL 09112 042043Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 /049 W
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P R 041955Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4519
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 9112

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECON, XL
SUBJ: COOPERATION FOR CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT

REF: STATE 257579

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR BRAZILIAN PARTICIPATION IN PROSPECTIVE CONSULTATIVE GROUP WOULD BE ENHANCED IF THE FIRST APPROACH TO THE GOB FOR SUCH PARTICIPATION WOULD BE MADE BY A GOVERNMENT FROM THE AREA, WITH THE US FOLLOWING UP. EMBASSY WOULD PLAN TO MAKE PRESENTATION TO FOREIGN MINISTRY AT DEPARTMENT-HEAD LEVEL BUT RECOMMENDS THAT THE SUBJECT ALSO BE RAISED BY THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS VISIT TO BRAZIL.
END SUMMARY.

2. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED HOW BEST TO CARRY OUT THE APPROACH DESIGNED TO SOLICIT BRAZILIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE PROSPECTIVE CARIBBEAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

3. BASED ON OUR EXPERIENCE WITH MANY APPROACHES OF THIS KIND TO THE GEISEL ADMINISTRATION, IT IS OUR CONSIDERED JUDGMENT THAT AN INDIRECT, TWO-STEP APPROACH IS MORE LIKELY TO PROVE EFFECTIVE THAN THE PRESENTATION REQUESTED IN REFTEL. DIRECT US APPROACHES ALL TO FREQUENTLY SEEM TO PRODUCE HESITATION AND EVEN
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SUSPICION IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE SEARCH FOR US MOTIVES PRESUMABLY PREJUDICIAL TO BRAZILIAN INTERESTS.

4. TO GUARD AGAINST THIS POSSIBILITY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST IF THE SUGGESTION FOR BRAZILIAN PARTICIPATION WOULD COME INITIALLY FROM A GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE AREA. FOR EXAMPLE WHILE WE CANNOT JUDGE THE GOTT'S RECEPTIVITY TO SUCH A SUGGESTION,

FROM A BRASILIA PERSPECVIVE, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT INTERLOCUTOR; BRAZIL IS SEEKING TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY, AND SILVEIRA HAS QUITE RECENTLY VISITED IT. EMBASSY PORT-OF-SPAIN MAY WISH TO COMMENT ON THIS SUGGESTION. PRESIDENT PEREZ' FORTHCOMING VISIT TO BRASILIA WOULD BE ANOTHER EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE THIS MATTER, AND UNLESS AMBASSADOR VAKY SEES OBJECTIONS, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE GOV BE APPROACHED ON THIS. (NOTWITHSTANDING, WE RECOGNIZE, SOME COMPETITIVE ELEMENTS IN THE BRAZIL-VENEZUELAN RELATIONSHIP.) EMBASSY BRASILIA WOULD FOLLOW UP WITH AN EXPRESSION OF US INTEREST IN BRAZILIAN PARTICIPATION ONCE SOME OR BOTH OF THESE APPROACHES HAVE TAKEN PLACE. FURTHERMORE WE RECOMMEND THAT THE PRESIDENT MENTION THIS SUBJECT DIRECTLY TO GEISEL DURING HIS VISIT HERE.

5. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE MAY BE REASONS, OF WHICH WE ARE NOT AWARE,

WHY THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT WISH TO PROCEED ON THIS BASIS AND PREFER THE DIRECT APPROACH REQUESTED IN REFTTEL. OUR OWN APPROACH TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL BE AT THE DEPARTMENT HEAD (I.E., ASSISTANT SECRETARY) LEVEL, EITHER TO THE HEAD OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEPARTMENT, AMBASSADOR ARAUJO, OR TO THE CHIEF OF THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT, MINISTER PROENCA ROSA.

6. DEPARTMENT PLEASE ADVISE HOW IT WISHES TO PROCEED.

CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

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